



Report title: Mayor's Question Time - Topics

To: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date: 25 October 2021

Public report: Yes

From: Anne Gardiner
Governance Manager

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

Recommendations: a) Discuss and agree the topics for the Mayor's Question Time scheduled for November 22nd 2021.

Voting arrangements: Simple majority of all members

1. Purpose

1.1 To request the Overview and Scrutiny Committee discuss the topic of questions for the Mayor's Question Time scheduled for the 22nd November 2021.

2. Background

2.1 One of the recommendations from the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny review into the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's arrangements was the programming of a regular and general Mayor's Question Time to allow high profile, direct holding to account of the Mayor.

2.2 The Committee received and agreed the format for the Mayor's Question Time at their meeting in September and it stated that the committee would agree the topics to be covered at the meeting held before the session takes place.

2.3 Members of the Committee were invited to submit their preferences for topics to the Scrutiny Officer prior to publication; four questions were received which fell into the following topic areas:

- Affordable Housing
- Local Transport Strategy
- Mayor Priorities

2.4 The Committee are requested to consider the following during their discussions:

- a) The Mayor is currently scheduled to attend the O&S Committee meeting on the 24th January 2022 in his capacity as the Chair for the Transport and Infrastructure Committee and therefore it may be prudent to avoid Transport related questions at this Mayor's Question Time.
- b) That members are realistic in the number of questions submitted – although there is currently no limit set for the number of questions submitted, the Committee are asked to be mindful that the session is due to last an hour with additional time if required.

2.5 Any duplicated questions or similar questions will be grouped together – with the Chair and Vice Chair having final decision on these; members who have submitted the questions will be consulted and advised on how the Chair and Vice Chair have chosen to handle the questions.

2.6 The final list of questions in the order in which they will be asked will be circulated to the O&S Committee one week before the session.

2.7 **The deadline for submitting questions for the Mayor's Question Time is the 5th November 2021 at 12pm.**

3. Financial Implications

3.1 None

4. Legal Implications

4.1 None.

5. Appendices

5.1 None

6. Background Papers

6.1 [CfGS Report](#)

6.2 [Mayor's Question Time Format proposal – September O&S Committee](#)